

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Examiner:

This amendment is in response to the Office Action dated May 16, 2006, in the above-referenced patent application. This response is submitted within a one (1) month extension of the shortened statutory period for reply, and Applicant requests an extension of the period for filing a reply in the above-identified application under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). The appropriate extension fee is filed herewith through the EFS of the USPTO.

Please enter the following amendments and consider the following remarks:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of new claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.